

**PATENT**

Atty. Dkt. No. 9237 (ATT1999-0566)

**REMARKS**

In view of the following discussion, the Applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application are unpatentable under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 103. Thus, the Applicants believe that all of these claims are now in allowable form.

**I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 39-42, 44 AND 47-52 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103**

The Examiner has rejected claims 39-42, 44 and 47-52 in the Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over US Publication 2003/0185375, published on October 2, 2003, hereinafter referred to as "Albal" in view of US Patent 6,215,858, issued on April 10, 2001, hereinafter referred to as "Bartholomew."

Responsive to the Examiner, Applicants have cancelled claims 39-42, 44 and 47-52 without prejudice. Thus, the present rejection is now moot. However, Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation applications to continue prosecution of these cancelled claims.

**IV. ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER**

The Applicants thank the Examiner for his comments regarding the allowability of claims 43, 45-46, 55-59, 61-65 and 66-70. The Applicants further thank the Examiner for his comments regarding the allowability of claims 53 and 54 if rewritten in an independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Responsive to the Examiner, Applicants have amended claim 53 into independent claim form. Thus, Applicant submits that claims 53 and 54 are also now in allowable form.

PATENT

Atty. Dkt. No. 9237 (ATT1999-0586)

**CONCLUSION**

Thus, the Applicants submit that all of these claims now fully satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 103. Consequently, the Applicants believe that all these claims are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring the issuance of a final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Mr. Kin-Wah Tong, Esq. at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Patterson & Sheridan, LLP  
595 Shrewsbury Avenue  
Shrewsbury, New Jersey 07702



Kin-Wah Tong, Attorney  
Reg. No. 39,400  
(732) 530-9404